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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/672,883	09/26/2003	Michael R. Hill	AmSp:Slid1	9524
26790	7590 05/25/2005		EXAM	INER
LAW OFFICE PMB 1020	CE OF KAREN DANA	LAVINDER	, JACK W	
15450 SW BOONES FERRY ROAD #9 LAKE OSWEGO, OR 97035			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	

DATE MAILED: 05/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
	10/672,883	HILL, MICHAEL R.			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
	Jack W. Lavinder	3677			
The MAILING DATE of this communicated for Reply	ation appears on the cover sheet	with the correspondence address			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNIC - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communing the period for reply specified above, the maximum statused in the period for reply is specified above, the maximum statused in the period for reply within the set or extended period f	ATION. 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may lication. days, a reply within the statutory minimum of tory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MIII. by statute, cause the application to become	a reply be timely filed hirty (30) days will be considered timely. ONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status					
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed	on 22 February 2005	,			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
3) Since this application is in condition fo	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Disposition of Claims					
4) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are pending in the appear of the above claim(s) is/are 5) □ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-5,7,8 and 10-18</u> is/are reject to claim(s) <u>6,9 and 20</u> is/are objected to 8) □ Claim(s) are subject to restriction	withdrawn from consideration.				
Application Papers					
9) The specification is objected to by the 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a Applicant may not request that any objection Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the 11) The oath or declaration is objected to be	a) accepted or b) objected to on to the drawing(s) be held in abey ne correction is required if the drawing.	rance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). ng(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119					
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim fo a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority do 2. Certified copies of the priority do	ocuments have been received. ocuments have been received in the priority documents have been al Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	Application No en received in this National Stage			
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		v Summary (PTO-413)			
Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTC 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PT Paper No(s)/Mail Date	D-948) Paper N	o(s)/Mail Date f Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)			

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States
- 2. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Clevett, Jr., 2869198.

Clevett, Jr. discloses a main body (3, 4) having a first main body end (end of short leg 4 just below reference numeral 10 in figure 3), a second main body end (11), a main body track portion (10, figure 3), and a main body locking portion (aperture 11).

Clevett, Jr. also discloses a slide (1) having a first slide end (13), a second slide end (12) and a longitudinal slide track structure extending between the first and second slide ends.

Regarding claims 7, 8, 14-16, Clevett, Jr.'s device is suitable for allowing a gear attachment mechanism and a base unit attachment mechanism to be positioned within and removed from the connector without significant manipulation.

Regarding claim 10, the longitudinal slide track structure (1) is considered to be in the form of a rib.

Regarding claims 11 and 18, Clevett, Jr. discloses a secondary connection means (loop 13) that is capable of being attached to a hook or rope.

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3. Claims 1-4, 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fales, 189442.

Fales discloses a main body (a) having a first main body end (top end portion of "a" in figure 3), a second main body end (d), a main body track portion (slot "l"), a main body locking portion (hook tip portion at "d"), and a secondary connection means (c).

Fales also discloses a slide (b) having a first slide end (A), a second slide end (h) and a longitudinal slide track structure (g, e) extending between the first and second slide ends.

Regarding claims 14-16, Fales's device is suitable for allowing a gear attachment mechanism and a base unit attachment mechanism to be positioned within and removed from the connector without significant manipulation.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 4. Claims 6, 9 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
- 5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack W. Lavinder whose telephone number is 571-272-7119. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday, 9-4:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Swann can be reached on 571-272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jack W Lavinder Primary Examiner Art Unit 3677

5/23/05